

# **Action Girl**

C O M I C S



Hello, and welcome to the first issue of Action Girl Comics, a new anthology showcasing some great female talent. As far as I know, ACG is the first comic with an all-ages ensulbility. Which is no en of my key issues.) If you don't quite get that, the idea is to present sophisticated or adult ideas, but explore them in such a way to avoid getting the dreaded "Mature Readers" label and being bagged and she'ved. This is not kids' stuffs, but it will always be accessible to younger readens. So, be warned, no graphic sex is coming up! As far as the content or tone of AGC—well, the best way to explain it would probably be to say that it is not exactly a mathology. It is being put together more like a zine.



is (one of my zines at least) — it is wholly my comic, not some publisher's collection of stuff. The material contained in this book is hand-picked by me and will always reflect my sensibilities. And what are they? Well, they include: printing stories on subjects that are more universal in theme: and providing a place for a new generation of caronists to be discovered — a generation that I think has not been given much of a voice in this industry. (Personally,



I think has not been given much of a voice in this industry. (Personally, Circle been aching for stories from my own punk/post-punk generation.)

As far as the rest of them, well you'll just have to come along and figure it out.



A little background: Action Girl Comic is an outgrowth of my long-running Action Girl projects, which all started with a newlatter I began publishing in 1992. — It's a guide to projects produced by girls, grrts and women. Boy-fiendly, but very no-girl. After litting at on of great minis by women that no-one knew about, I decided I wanted to start collecting their work in comiss from (A note on girl-positive material; Guys—don't be intrinidated by girl-loriented stuff, and support girls you know who are trying to accomplish things. Girls—you may feel like you're the only one trying to do anything, but there's lots of us out here. You can do it, whatever it is,) Interestingly enough, I named the newletter after a character I decreased—and now the's come full cricket.



In my work, I know I say this over and over but it'll always be valid:

"Love all creatures!" "Love everything that has life!" "Be careful of a me, circa last year.



civilization that puts too much stock in science" — oh, sorry, that's Osamu Terulas — I say ACTION IS EVERYTHING! Our society, even when it's trying to be "alternative" susually just permones a consumerist mentality. Buying things init evil, but if that's all you do, your life is pretty pointless. Be an ACTION GIRIQ (or boy)! If segret to read / listen to /wasch other people's creative cuptup, but it's even cooler to do it yourself. Don't think you can do comies? Try anyway, even if they're just for yourself. Or maybe think about writing for a zine, or working at show or benefits. Volunteet Learn to sew Not everyone is suited to doing projects on their own, but everyone has something to contribute. So go out and do something with all that positive energy?



I'd like to thank about a zillion people here but there's just room for these—Evan Dotkin for being swell; Mom & Dod for raising me to think for myself my four younger brothers for not being too difficult; all my fabulous contributors, especially Elizabeth for all the enthusism and support: Roberta Gregory for all the support: Goo for the tip on the sale at Anna Sui, Diana & Bob for making me feel wanted (and competent): Dan Vado for giving in to my blackmail: Craig Pape for being functional; and everyone else I forgot. And of course, YOU! It's cool and hip to do a music list, so here's what I wore this into to: Brian Brain's Fun With Music EP, ABC's Lexient of Low, and Bow Wow Wow's I Wan Candy, Ohy peak, over designed, illustrated and colored by moi. See you in three month?



Send letters, comments, submissions, and presents of Sanrio to: Sarah Dyer, AGC, PO Box 060456, Staten Island NY 10304.



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Publisher: Craig Pape. Action Girl title and character @ & \*\*\* 1994 Sarah Dyer. All 
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TO CALM POOLS OF WATER: BEFORE WE KNOW IT, WE WILL HAVE GAINED THE SPOT WHERE PIRDS SING. GIRDS SING. LITTLE BIRDS

SINGING #

SO I'M NO OPERA SINGER! LEAST I WENT FOR THE HIGH NOTES!



AN THE RIVER! HERE, IT'S JUST THE BOAT, THE WATER, AND ME! GLIDE DOWN THE WATER WAYS OF THE WORLD, ENJOY THE MOTION THAT TAKES ONE FORWARD. AND EXCITEMENT AND EXPECTANCY FILLS THE HEART!



WASN'T THAT HOW LAKME FELT SINGING TO MALLIKA AS THEY FLOATED DOWN STREAM, IN SEARCH OF A RIVE LOTUS FLOUJER FOR HER FATHER.

YEH! THE WATERS INSPIRE; IT PROVIDES THE MEANS FOR TRAVEL, TO LEAVE ONE PLACE, PERHAPS FOR ANOTHER, TO ACCEPT IT'S HAVEN AND THUS DARE TO DREAM TO GIVE IN TO DESIRES.

WHEN CHARLES DODGSON TOOK ALICE ON A BOATING TRIP DOWN THE ISIS OF THE THAMES, A MARVELOUS TALE WAS TOLD THAT AFTERNOON, BORN OF A MAN'S LOVE FOR A CHILD, AND HIS















SEATORY

#### All Girls Together





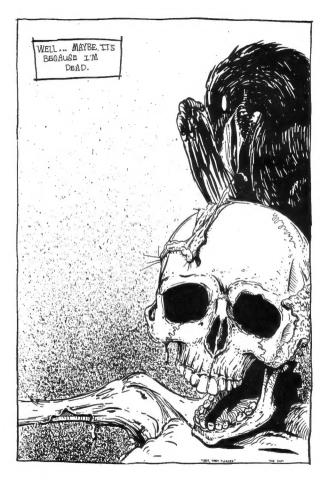


PREBECCA DART PR





WAY DOES IT KEEP HANGING AROUND?





#### ACTION GIRL A NEW CUT-AND COLOR ACTIVITY PAGE



## RESERVOIR















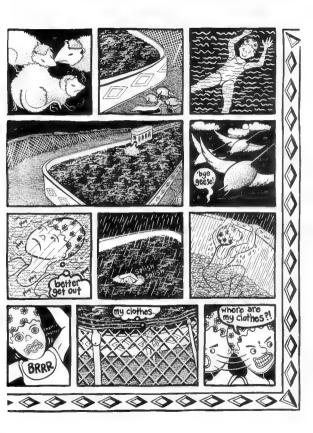


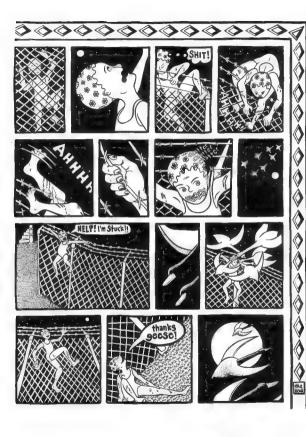


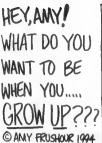












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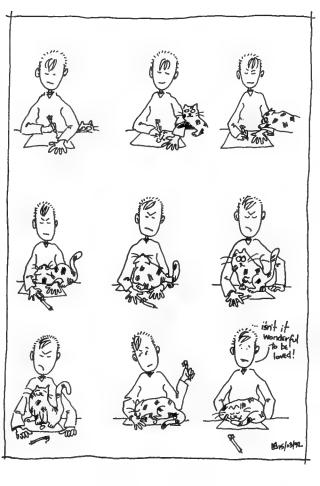


SMITH · CORONA

I THINK I'LL
GO PLAY WITH MY
PLASTIC DINOSAURS
NOW.

/ ?S.-THANKS, EUZABETH!









## E POCILISHE-S

SHE-'s been there-RA











### <u> Your Hostesses:</u>



Sarah Dyer is a frenetic over-worked Sanrio addict transplanted and slowly adapting to New York. Her work has appeared in obscure zines and on hard-to-find album covers. For a catalog of all of Sarah's self-publishing (including: the muslof essay zine Mod Planet; the personal Kikizine; and all the components of the Action Girl empire) send a SASE to: P.O. Box 060456, Staten Island, NY 10306



Jessica Abel is a Scorpio born November 15th, with green eyes and brown hair, who is best described as "HELL ON WHEELS". Her turn ons: warm honey and a warm honey; her turn offs: rude people and chest hair. Her work has appeared in Rocktober and the Chicago area free paper New Cip, as well as her own comic, Artbabe. 3 issues of Artbabe are available for \$2 each from: Jessica Abel, 1573 N Milwaukee, #423, Chicago IL 60622. And from the same address you can get a 7" single of her band, Bender, which includes a 6-page mini-comic for only \$4.



Elizabeth Watasin is a professional artist living in L.A. All she wants to do is daydream the live long days away and make being forlorn an art form. And watch cartoons: "River Baby Dream Child" first appeared in Terry Moore's Strangers in Paradise. Her own mini-comic, Adventures of A-Girl! (issues 1-3, plus A-Girl Etc., a compilation of reader's cartoons) is available for \$1\$ ppd each from Elizabeth at: 120 So. San Fernando Blvd #231, Burbank, CA 91502.



Carol Seatory was trained as a graphic designer and dreams of fame as a tap-dancer or as a character in Love and Rockets. Her work has appeared in GirFrenzy, Sofo, been exhibited in the Drawing Room comic show and regularly appears in British magazines. Her books, The Book of Big Hoir and Making a Spectacle of Yourself are available for £25 and £2 respectively from GirlFrenzy, PO Box 148, Hove, East Sussex, BN3 3DQ, UK. (Write first for availability and postal rates.)



Leanne Franson is a Bi Canadian cartoonist/illustrator, born in Regina (Sask.) and now in Montréal with her two cats. She's currently exploring England with a four-year work visa but promises to keep up with her self-publishing schedule. Her work has appeared in countless publications, including: GirlFerazy, Mousie, Dyke's Delight, GirlJock, the Houston Voice, the Las Vegas Bugle, Utne Reader, Real Girl, Brat Attack and the book What is this thing called SEX? Her own long-running series, Liliane, is available from her for \$1.50 (postpaid) per copy — there are 25 issues out now, so order "most recent" or send a SASE for a catalogue to: PO Box 274, Succ. Place Du Parc, Montréal, Québec, HZW ZN8 CANADA



Rebecca Dart lives in the wintery climes of Canada with her husband, Robin Bougle, and her cat, Lopez Kittyman. Her work has appeared in Twisted Vixen and Tropical Punch. Her own minis are available from 223 Ave E North, Saskatoon, Sask, STL 1R6, CANADA—The Other 88%, a collection of various stories, is \$2 ppd, and Loa, a pictoral study of voodoo, is \$1.



Fallen Angel (a.k.a. Laura Cain) was born a rebel cartoonist dressed in black, and has been drawing ever since. Zyears art college and a freelance cartoonist from then on, ("Skint but happy!") Her work has appeared in the fabulous zine Griffrenzy as well as Saw Head (a comic made with fellow students at cartoon college in London). She does monthly illustration work for an aerobics magazine to eat.

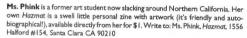
## <u> Your Hostesses:</u>



Megan Kelso is a cartoonist from Seattle who self-publishes a quarterly comic called *GirlHero*. Her work has appeared in Seattle's weekly *Stranger*, *On Our Backs*, *Thorn. Rocktober* and *GirlFrenzy*. *GirlHero* is available for \$3 ppd from: High Drive Publications, 4505 University Way NE#536, Seattle WA, 98 105. (4-issue subscription available for \$12.)



Amy Frushour has been self-publishing since 1990, recently delying into the realm of autobiography. She loves getting mail and will trade comics! Her recent full-size mini, "Tales Calculated to Drive You to Albequerque" is \$1.50 ppd, and her small minis are only 35¢ each. Order today, or send SASE for free catalog: 77 Sanford Place, Jersey City NJ 07307-3724.





Jennifer Sorensen is a hard-working 3rd year student at the University of Virginia whose work has appeared in their collective (and highly recommended) U. of V. comic anthology, Zero. Issues I and 2 are available from Null Set Publications, 134 Tucker, Newcomb Hall Station, Charlottesville VA 22904-0061.



She-Ra gave up unicorns for coffee at an early age, and was the oldest winner ever in Sossy's Reader Produced Issue contest. She also spent 15 minutes alone with Matt Groening recently. Her work has appeared in Pawholes and Another Pair of Shoes. Two issues of her self-published comic Noisy Jewelry are available from: She-Ra's Noisy Jewelry, 395 Pharr Rd #302, Atlanta GA 30305, #1: "I Jingle, therefore I am" is \$1 + 2 stamps; #2: "Java Lust", \$2 + 2 stamps.

And now I'd like to present the Action Girl Comics official t-shirt. featuring our favorite heroine, Action Girl herself, and drawn as a present for me by honorary action boy Evan Dorkin. Proclaim your hipness, your intelligence, and your loyalty to Action Girl all at once by wearing this awesome shirt. (And I think you'll probably not be seeing it on too many other people.) Printed in a fabulous shade of Power Purple on white, sizes medium through extra-large. (Note: girls; I'm 5'10" and I may be on the skinny side but even the medium isn't tight on me. If you've got a small frame you'll be swimming. I recommend ordering smaller than you might think you need.) Be the first on your block to sport this hallmark of true coolness. Also, there is a black-and-white sticker of this design, pretty good sized, too (about 3" x 5"!!). And you can get it absolutely free by just sending in the coupon on the back of this page. You'll also get a (free) catalog from Slave Labor to make ordering that much easier. And if you do want to order a shirt or comic, you can do it when you send in your coupon. C'mon, you know you want to!



**Action Girl** 

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#### further reading:

Well, obviously, the first recommendation I'd like to make to you is the next issue of Action Gist.

Comis (see left), which promises to be even more fabulous than this onel It'll be out in early
January (that's 1995 for those of you picking this up late), and can be ordered by comic stores
in November. So ask your store to get it and help keep no orders up!
Mini-comises: All the contributors to this issue (number one) have fantastic minis available,

Mini-comics: All the contributors to this issue (number one) have hantasite minis available, which you'll see listed in their biso. Here's a few other mini-comics being put out thy women & gride: Zere Hour (She thought of it first but didn't copyright it! Let this be a lesson to you's by Party Leidy, whose work will appear in Artion Girl Comise 2. Party's series of strips about roommates P. J. & Antionette are now collected in a full size format and can be ordered from Party at 985 Greenwood Ave NE #2, Adama GA 30306 for \$3 ppd. Zere Hour's finnry and often biting — definitely worth your time and money. Deep Girl by Ariel Bordeaux (another future contributor). #4 has recently come our. More girl-oriented than most, contribution of this position when I mean). Girls Il bove it, nothing that Il alienate male readers (and I think you know what I mean). Girls Il bove it,

and guys — think of it as eavesdropping on the girls you know. #4 is \$2 ppd from 573 Scott St, Apt
I., San Francisco CA 94117. Misery & Yomit by Chantale Doyle — I haven't heard from Chantale in a while but
I'm sure you can still order her fantastic minis with their dream-inspired stories and bold graphic art style for \$2 each from
Box #2033. Mortrad Outbee. H2W 2T3. CANADA.

Box 42055, Montreal Queece, 1224 (1), GOS OFFICE AND THE AND T

than most women do. Heetic Planet by honorary action boy Evan Dorkin, published by Slave Labor. Cuys and girls, in all kinds of relationships. The book's a lot of fun, too. Start with #5 for a great Trombone Girls cover paining. Semurai Man, by Ande Faks, also published by Slave. This limited series has a strong subplot involving the female members of the cast. In addition, virtually all of the Japanese comics (mangs) published by Viz and Dark Horseare very girl-friendly, more so than most American comics are. (However, approach mangs by other publishers wardly, a lot of it is below substandard.) There's also assureedly plenty of other girl-friendly stuff that I either haven't seen or don't have space to list. See you next time!



#### Would you like more action cirl stuff?

If you simply fill out this coupon (or a copy of it) and mail it to Slave Labor, you will recieve a FREE! Action Girl sticker (of the cool t-shirt design) and a Slave Labor catalog, featuring several of the titles mentioned above. Trust me, this sticker is more than worth a 29¢ stamp!! Fill out and send to: Slave Labor Graphics, 979 S. Bascom Ave. San lose CA 95128.

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my address:	********
	state: zip:

I can't wait to get my free sticker and Slave Labor catalog! Also, please send me the following:

(Make checks/money orders out to Slave Labor Graphics. Enclose \$1.50 postage for the first book, 25¢ for each additional book; \$2 for the first shirt, \$1 for each one after that.)

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